



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/758,290	01/12/2001	Ken Yamamoto	201993US2	8624

22850 7590 04/10/2003

OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
1940 DUKE STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, KIMBINH T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2671

DATE MAILED: 04/10/2003

5

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/758,290

Applicant(s)

YAMAMOTO ET AL.

Examiner

Kimbinh T. Nguyen

Art Unit

2671

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 January 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 7-9 and 14-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-6, 10-13 and 17-20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-20 are pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 7-9, 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yokota et al. (5,909,206) in view of Kuriki (5,250,928).

Claim 1, Yokota et al. discloses a display RAM 4 to store the display data (col. 3, lines 24-26); a latch shift register (scroll shift register 11 comprises a latch circuit 22) to receive the display data from RAM 4 if the display screen is intended to be scrolled in a horizontal direction, shift the read out data depending on the scrolling direction (col. 10, lines 32-60), Yokota does not teach if the screen is scrolled in a vertical direction, hold the read out display; however, Kuriki teaches holding of new data in synchronism with the vertical sync signal (col. 6, lines 54-57); Yokota also teaches an access control circuit the latch circuit) to read out the display data if the display screen is scrolled in a horizontal direction (col. 10, lines 54-60), write back the display shift into an original region in RAM (col. 18, lines 26-50), and Kuriki teaches if the display data is scrolled in a vertical direction, write back the display data held by the latch shift register into a

Art Unit: 2671

region moved by the amount of scroll from the original region (col. 6, line 54 through col. 7, line 2). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the Kuriki's teaching into the Yokoda's method for displaying data which is scrolled in a vertical direction, because it would prevent flickering or unnatural image distortion from occurring on the screen (col. 10, lines 33-35).

Claim 7, Yokota et al. discloses the display is a LCD (col. 2, lines 25-34).

Claims 8, 9, 14 and 15, the rationale provide in the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated here in. In addition, Yokota teaches a display RAM (col. 3, lines 22-23); a system driver (col. 3, lines 17-21), a CPU (col. 6, lines 53-54), a memory to store the display data (col. 3, lines 24-26).

4. Claims 2, 9 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yokota et al. (5,909,206) in view of Kuriki (5,250,928) and further in view of Fujitaka (5,495,267).

Claims 2, 9, 16, Yokota does not teach an opposition direction; however, Fujitaka discloses a switching circuit (display control data output inhibition circuit 22, fig. 1) to switch a direction from RAM 13 to an opposite direction (col. 4, lines 6-11), if the display screen is intended to be scrolled vertically downward (if they are scroll from top to the bottom of the screen), to that of scrolling the display screen vertically upward (natural scroll from the bottom to the top of the screen is also possible) (col. 10, lines 3-15). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the Fujitaka's teaching into the Yokoda's method for utilizing an

Art Unit: 2671

opposite direction, because it would provide a screen display which enables vertical or horizontal scroll display contents from one side of the screen to the other (col. 1, lines 12-15).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 3-6, 10-12, 17-20 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The prior art does not teach a first selecting circuit to select a region in a horizontal direction capable of being scrolled, wherein the access control circuit supplies display data selected by the first selecting circuit to the latch shift register; a second selecting circuit to select a region in a vertical direction capable of being scrolled, wherein the access control circuit supplies display data selected by the second selecting circuit to the latch shift register; the second selecting circuit includes a comparing circuit to compare a value of an address in a vertical direction to be scrolled content an address indicating in the vertical direction in the RAM.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Kimbinh Nguyen** whose telephone number is **(703)**

Art Unit: 2671

305-9683. The examiner can normally be reached (**Monday- Thursday from 7:00 AM to 4:30 PM and alternate Fridays from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM**).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Zimmerman, can be reached at (703) 305-9798.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

Or faxed to:


(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Part II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

Kimbinh Nguyen

April 3, 2003


MARK ZIMMERMAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600